Teleca of Superstitious Programmes

946. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that several TV broadcasters are telecasting programmes that promote superstition and occult practices;

(b) whether Government is also aware that serials like "Sheee, Koi Hai....." being shown on Sony TV is promoting superstition; and

(c) if so, what steps Government has taken or proposes to take to ban such serials for telecast on prominent channels?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNŞI): (a) Some instances have been brought to the notice of the Government in which suitable action has been taken.

(b) and (c) No such complaint has been received by the Government. At present, there is no regular surveillance mechanism for monitoring the content of all the channels. However, all broadcasters are required to abide by the programme and advertising codes prescribed under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 and rules framed thereunder. With a view to look into the violation of the Programme/Advertising Codes, the Central Government has constituted an Inter-Ministerial Committee under Section 20 of the Act. The Committee either *suo-motu* or on receipt of complaint, examines cases of violation of the Codes. If any violation is noted by the Committee, action is taken against the TV channel as per rules.

Offer IPTV to Existing License Holders

947. SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether paving the way for large scale development of Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) services in the country, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has said that both telecom operators and cable TV service providers will be allowed to offer IPTV under their existing licenses;

(b) if so, whether the IPTV is a system where an interactive digital television service is delivered over an Internet connection instead of the traditional way of transmitting through a cable network;

(c) if so, whether any final decision in this regard has been taken; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI PRIYARANJAN DASMUNSI) (a) Telecom Regulatory of India (TRAI) in its position paper on 'provisioning of IPTV service' issued on 6.9.2007 has said that both telecom service providers and Cable TV operators registered under the Cable Television Networks (Regulation) Act, 1995 can provide IPTV services without requiring any further license.

(b) IPTV is a method of delivering and viewing of television channels using Internet Protocol (IP) network and high speed broadband technology.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.